

106TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. RES. 370

Recognizing and honoring Walter Payton and expressing the condolences  
of the House of Representatives to his family on his death.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NOVEMBER 9, 1999

Mr. PICKERING (for himself, Mr. WICKER, Mr. SHOWS, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, Mr. TAYLOR of Mississippi, Mr. HASTERT, and Mr. LARGENT) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Government Reform

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## RESOLUTION

Recognizing and honoring Walter Payton and expressing the  
condolences of the House of Representatives to his family  
on his death.

Whereas Walter Payton was born in Columbia, Mississippi,  
on July 25, 1954;

Whereas Walter Payton was a distinguished alumnus of  
Jackson State University, home of the Jackson State Ti-  
gers and the nationally renowned Sonic Boom of the  
South;

Whereas Walter Payton was known by all as “Sweetness”;

Whereas Walter Payton serves as the highest example of his  
Christian faith and his sport in countless public and pri-  
vate ways;

Whereas Walter Payton was truly a hero and role model for all Mississippians who had the privilege of watching him play the game he loved so much;

Whereas Walter Payton was viewed by his friends and former classmates as a fun-loving, warm, and smiling man with a joy for life, his family, and his sport;

Whereas Walter Payton played the game of football with unparalleled determination, passion, and desire;

Whereas Walter Payton, an extraordinary Mississippian and the National Football League's greatest running back of all time, died leaving us great memories of personal and athletic achievements;

Whereas Walter Payton received national acclaim as a running back and was the Chicago Bears' first pick, and was chosen fourth overall, in the 1975 draft;

Whereas Walter Payton played 13 seasons in the National Football League;

Whereas Walter Payton played a critical role in helping the Chicago Bears win Super Bowl XX in 1986;

Whereas Walter Payton was inducted into the College Football Hall of Fame in 1996;

Whereas Walter Payton was inducted into the Professional Football Hall of Fame in 1993;

Whereas Walter Payton holds the National Football League record for career yards—16,726 yards;

Whereas Walter Payton holds the National Football League record for career rushing attempts—3,838 attempts;

Whereas Walter Payton holds the National Football League record for yards gained in a single game—275 yards in

a game against the Minnesota Vikings on November 20, 1977;

Whereas Walter Payton holds the National Football League record for seasons with 1,000 or more yards—10 seasons, 1976 to 1981 and 1983 to 1986;

Whereas Walter Payton holds the National Football League record for consecutive seasons leading the league in rushing attempts—4 seasons, from 1976 to 1979;

Whereas Walter Payton holds the National Football League record for most career games with 100 or more yards—77 games;

Whereas Walter Payton holds the National Football League record for combined net yards in a career—21,803 yards;

Whereas Walter Payton holds the National Football League record for combined attempts in a career—4,368 attempts;

Whereas one of Walter Payton's greatest achievements was the founding of the Walter Payton Foundation, which provides financial and motivational support to youth and helps children realize that they can raise the quality of their lives and the lives of those around them;

Whereas the Walter Payton Foundation's greatest legacy has been the funding and support of children's educational programs, as well as programs assisting abused or neglected children; and

Whereas Walter Payton died on November 1, 1999, of liver disease: Now, therefore, be it

1       *Resolved*, That the House of Representatives—

2               (1) recognizes and honors Walter Payton—

1 (A) as one of the greatest professional  
2 football players;

3 (B) for his many contributions to Mis-  
4 sissippi and the Nation throughout his lifetime;  
5 and

6 (C) for transcending the game of football  
7 and becoming a timeless symbol of athletic tal-  
8 ent, spirited competition, and a role model as a  
9 Christian gentleman and a loving father and  
10 husband; and

11 (2) extends its deepest condolences to Walter  
12 Payton's wife Connie, his children Brittany and  
13 Jarrett, his mother Alyne, his brother Eddie and sis-  
14 ter Pam, and the other members of his family on  
15 their tragic loss.

16 SEC. 2. The Clerk of the House of Representatives  
17 shall transmit an enrolled copy of this resolution to the  
18 family of Walter Payton.

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